

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 50 JOBS AND \$1.9 MILLION INVESTMENT
IN JONES COUNTY**
One North Carolina Fund helps bring military support plant to Trenton Industrial Park

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Workhorse Aviation Manufacturing, LLC. will open a manufacturing plant in Trenton Industrial Park, creating 50 jobs over the next three years and investing \$1.9 million in the area. Workhorse Aviation Manufacturing will receive a \$100,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“Workhorse Aviation Manufacturing conducted a national search and chose to open its first plant in North Carolina,” Easley said. “This is testament to our strong educational system and investments in workforce training. North Carolina is making the right investments in the right places at the right time, and they are paying off.”

Workhorse Aviation Manufacturing, a manufacturer of structural component parts for aging military aircraft, first incorporated one year ago in Delaware as Workhorse, Inc. and began searching for a permanent location. The new jobs will be skilled machinist positions and will pay an average of \$22 per hour.

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the Governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of this Fund, more than 12,000 jobs and \$1 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

“We chose North Carolina because of its reasonable cost of living, the financial incentives offered by state and local officials and its proximity to the Naval Air Depot (NADEP) in Cherry Point and the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station in Elizabeth City,” said Melanie McTaggart, company president.

Partners who made this project possible include the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the Golden LEAF Foundation, Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corp., the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jones County, the Jones County Committee of 100, Neuse River Development Authority and Lenoir Community College.

“Jones County is a small county and any industry that we can attract for Jones County is a major plus for the people and the economy there,” said State Senator Cecil Hargett of Jones County, who was involved in the project.

Anyone interested in applying for a job with Workhorse Aviation Manufacturing should contact the Employment Securities Commission office in New Bern at (252) 514-4828.

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